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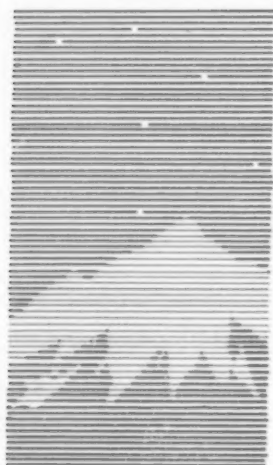
NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION



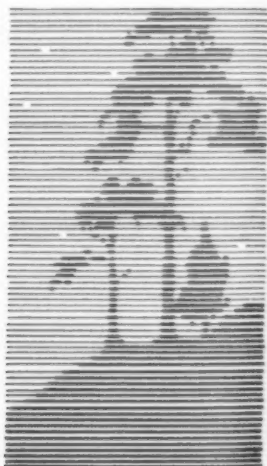
SOUTH FLORIDA TODAY—Page Four

JANUARY-MARCH 1948 • 50 CENTS • VOL. 22; NO. 92



Ideals are like stars; you will not succeed in touching them with your hands. But like the seafaring man on the desert of waters, you choose them as your guides, and following them you will reach your destiny.

—CARL SCHURZ



NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE

Published quarterly by
The National Parks Association

An independent, non-profit organization with nation-wide membership
guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness

1214 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

DEVEREUX BUTCHER, Editor

January-March 1948

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NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE, formerly National Parks Bulletin, has been published since 1919 by the National Parks Association. It presents articles of importance and of general interest relating to the national parks and monuments, and is issued quarterly for members of the Association and for others who are interested in the preservation of our national parks and monuments as well as in maintaining national park standards, and in helping to preserve wilderness. (See inside back cover.)

Letters and contributed manuscripts and

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National Parks Association

Rainbow Bridge, Utah.—The National Park Service was created to protect great works of nature like this, and for that reason, the attention, energy and funds of the Service should not be diverted to administration of areas of a purely recreational function.

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JANUA

KRUG STIMULATES COOPERATION

ON December 1, Secretary of the Interior Julius A. Krug said, "I must say that as long as I am Secretary of the Interior, there will be no change to reduce the national park or monument areas, except where the evidence is so overwhelming that the public interest requires it, that even a blind man and a deaf man would be convinced, and that is going pretty far." That statement brought applause, for the Secretary was speaking before a meeting of representatives of thirty-five conservation organizations from all parts of the country. The Secretary had called the meeting, to be held in Washington, D. C., for discussion between conservation officials and federal bureau heads on land management problems.

With regard to national parks and monuments, most of the current difficulties in protection and administration were threshed out. With 25,000,000 people going to our nature reservations this year—an increase of more than 4,000,000 over last—the National Park Service cannot protect adequately the parks and monuments; public demand for interpretive service has increased far beyond the ability of the present small number of ranger-naturalists to meet it; additional facilities are needed, and present structures and equipment require improvement and repair. There is but one answer to solving these problems: The National Park Service must have larger appropriations. The only way to bring this about is for every person to make his or her wishes known to Congress. Write at once to your senators and representatives at Washington, D. C., expressing your views in this matter.

The private land problem came in for its share of discussion. It was pointed out that if the Service is to receive no more than the token sum of \$200,000 for acquisition of private lands each year, as it did in 1947,

it will take a hundred years before all private lands have been acquired. The cost of acquisition has been estimated to total over \$20,000,000. The Service cannot tell a private owner what he should do with his land, and owners often develop their properties in ways that are detrimental to surrounding park lands. Unless these private inholdings are acquired, they will continue to drain funds that could be applied to better purposes, for their existence increases the cost of administering the surrounding park lands. Here again is urgent need for public expression.

The threat to abolish Jackson Hole National Monument, oil in the Everglades, the question of how far the National Park Service should go in managing park wildlife, and many other subjects were brought up for discussion. The extent to which the National Park Service should be responsible for the administration of recreational areas created by artificial lakes developed under the Bureau of Reclamation and Army Engineers, also was discussed.

On page 23 there is an article on this last subject.

The National Parks Association has always felt that the National Park Service should not have imposed upon it the additional burden of administering these areas. The Service might well act in an advisory capacity, however, when plans for recreational development are being drawn up. The Service was created by Congress in 1916 to protect and administer the great primeval parks and monuments. Today the historic monuments and sites are also under the care of the Service. To load the Service with a large and growing administrative responsibility for purely recreational areas is to divert the Service's attention and effort from its proper function, and to spread more thinly the already far too small appropriations being made to the Service.

The South Florida Situation Today

By DELOS E. CULVER

MANY people who followed the struggle to establish a national park in south Florida breathed a sigh of relief when recently the park became a reality, even though it embraced a relatively smaller area than that originally planned. Any inviolate sanctuary in this sub-tropical region is commendable in the extreme, and the greatest credit is due those who fought so valiantly and saw their tireless efforts rewarded. However, much remains to be done before the preservationists of America can say that the best of the fauna and flora of south Florida is safe.

Areas outside the boundaries of the present park embrace plant and animal life of outstanding character, and are worthy of permanent protection, either within the park boundaries, when they are extended, or under another land classification.

It was the author's privilege during the past season to cover much of the country from north of Lake Okeechobee to the southern tip of Key Largo, spending considerable time in the back country of each section. Some of the impressions gained were not encouraging, to say the least.

Perhaps the greatest threat to wildlife, plant and animal alike, is the indiscriminate grazing of cattle wherever land is sufficiently solid to support the weight of a cow. Over all grazing lands there is a well defined plan of drainage and burning. It is discouraging to hear some of the wildlife experts of this region expound the supposed virtues of fire and the "benefits" accruing therefrom. True, the saw palmetto and one of two larger species of trees are not permanently damaged by this repeated burning; but when one gazes upon mile after mile of bleak and charred landscape, where little life is visible, he ponders the motives, if any, behind the attempt to convince the wildlife-loving public that there is something to be gained by this system

of burning. To the writer, defense of such a practice is ridiculous. Thousands of trees killed by fire were noted; and what fire failed to destroy, was often killed by drainage, either before or after burning. Occasionally whole hammocks in the path of a blaze are wiped out. With them go the tree snails, *Ampularia*, food of the Everglades kites, and consequently, the kites themselves. This thoughtless destruction goes on despite the fact that hundreds of years are required to create a hammock and all the fascinating life therein.

Many there are who even now see little of interest in the flat terrain of this great peninsula. Strip from it the exquisite beauty of its plant and animal life, and there will be little left to attract anyone. This triple threat of grazing, burning and draining bids fair to transform south Florida into a desolate, lifeless land outside the park boundaries.

North of the keys, the area outside the park that is most worthy of immediate protection is the much publicized Big Cypress Swamp. It is too late to save the largest and most magnificent trees. Six years of lumbering have witnessed the passing of at least sixty percent of these primeval giants. But what is left is definitely worth saving, for only the great cypresses have been taken and deep within the heart of this fine wilderness area remain upwards of four thousand royal palms. To date, those that have been cut or transplanted have caused little injury to the remaining stand. Should such depredations continue indefinitely, however, they are bound to destroy the primitive character of the original stand.

Since cutting of virgin timber on private lands is necessary, it should be noted, in fairness to all, that this particular operation represents an exceptionally good type of lumbering. Only cypress is being cut.

Fine old virgin oak, maple and other species are not touched. Neither are the palms; and here and there, sparsely scattered specimens of virgin cypress trees are spared because of defects from the lumberman's viewpoint. Preservation of the swamp is well worth fighting for, provided fire is kept out. Once the cypress cutting is completed, men and equipment withdrawn, this area, if rigidly protected, would gradually revert to primitive conditions, with nature healing the scars. No finer example of such recovery can be found today than in Georgia's Okefinokee Swamp, where once the lumberman's ax and attempts at drainage caused despoilment.

Of Royal Palm State Park, within the confines of the boundaries of the Everglades National Park, the less said the better. Little has been done to protect the priceless assets for which the park was established. Poor administration and protection, with consequent fire and vandalism, have destroyed practically all the original values. The devastating fire of a few years ago that wrought almost complete destruction of rare ferns, orchids, tree snails and other forms, could have been stopped. I was

informed on the best of authority that "two men could have saved it." When it was realized that fire was approaching the park, those charged with its management and protection, allegedly, refused to do anything, even though appealed to frantically by telephone. Practically all the palms are destroyed. Only twenty-two specimens, widely scattered, were counted there, and today the park is little more than a jungle of broad-leaf undergrowth.

Arriving finally at the Everglades, one hesitates in his appraisal. Even those only mildly interested are familiar with what has happened over much of the four and a half million acres within the jurisdiction of the Everglades Drainage District. The great fires of past years that followed drainage of land unsuited to profitable drainage, in addition to widespread violation of protective laws, have left their mark on the wildlife population and its habitat. What these factors have not as yet destroyed, with rod, gun, spear, net and trap, man bids fair to finish.

It is sad that most rural people consider themselves beyond the pale of the law. Removed from the practical application of

Part of the mangrove fringe of Everglades National Park is seen here from a tower in the vicinity of the East River rookery. The swamps and narrow, winding waterways of the 'Glades make the region difficult to patrol.

Delos E. Culver





Claude C. Maitlak

This view, taken from a blimp, shows the green and watery hammock-dotted expanse of the Everglades wilderness, and winding across it the narrow thread of a Seminole Indian canoe trail.

law, unschooled in respect for constituted authority, the average ruralite kills ruthlessly when pleasure or desire dictate, irrespective of laws of either God or man. The fact that, at certain seasons, young of illegally killed species may be left to starve does not appear to them to be important. Not a bit higher on the ladder of decency toward wild creatures, when it comes to sheer wanton destruction, are many of the so-called educated "sportsmen" from the city. Shooting from highways, boats, airplanes, in fact from anything that will take them within range of living, moving targets, they leave behind a trail of carnage nigh unbelievable. Witness, as has the author, baby alligators floating belly up, the side of their heads blown off by a shotgun blast; or a wood ibis hanging by its head in the top of a cypress along a main highway, its body still dripping blood from the bullet hole. Wings of a white ibis at a recently deserted fishing camp, killed and eaten by the fishermen "sportsmen," and lastly, an utterly harmless, inoffensive gopher turtle whose upper carapace had been the recipient of a charge of shot. As these lines are written, there comes to hand a report from a nationally known guide in the Everglades area of a new "sport" in the torture and destruction of wildlife; the pastime of driving deer to exhaustion by racing them back and forth across the 'Glades with air boats. In violation of every existing statute, this newly conceived "sport" is allegedly the brain-child of a group "closely connected with big-time gambling in Miami." Pressure was brought to bear to prevent prosecution of the violators, but they were recently convicted and fined \$150 each.

Much resentment of critics of hunting camps along main highways has come from the slaughtering fraternity. It is not the legitimate hunting camps in themselves that the public resents, but the illegitimate practices emanating therefrom. To deny that such practices exist is senseless. The facts are common knowledge.

Let's look at some of the factors involved in this matter of illegal killing. Until one visualizes, on the spot, the vast areas that are the Everglades, it is difficult to understand the enforcement problem. During the years prior to the establishment of either the federal refuge or the national park, the magnificent work done by the National Audubon Society in protecting strategically situated rookeries is well known. However, with the Fish and Wildlife Service taking jurisdiction, insufficient funds for adequate patrols proved a handicap. At this writing, I am informed that only two men still cover this refuge—that is, the area of the refuge outside the park boundaries—in an effort to keep law violators to a minimum. Where the fault lies is difficult to say. Administrative agencies point to lack of funds with which to employ additional patrols. Some politicians, who are in a position to secure support for such agencies belittle these claims. It is the same old story where politics is involved. Meanwhile, vast areas, especially during the legitimate gunning season, go unprotected from the ravages of illegal shooting. One of my informants stated that ten spoonbills were killed in the Dismal Key area on the west coast in November, 1946, while four of the extremely rare Everglades kites were found floating before a single duck-hunting blind.

What is the remedy for this? It is two fold. First, an immediate aggressive statewide campaign of education as to the value of Florida's natural beauty and all living things that contribute to it, plant and animal alike; secondly, a rigid enforcement of all laws for the protection of such assets, and of new laws where necessary. The Everglades National Park serves Florida as a publicly approved illustration of the value of its wild plant and animal life, its scenery and wilderness environment. This is the focal point from which should emanate not only an extension of the park boundaries, but also inspiration, transformed into action to save many areas worthy of preservation, with all plant and animal life therein.

Let's Save the Short-Leaved Joshua Tree

By PHILIP A. MUNZ

VISITORS to the deserts in four of our southwestern states have long been impressed by the weird appearance of the Joshua trees or tree yuccas, *Yucca brevifolia*, which give character to the landscape over wide areas. The trees remind the traveler of pictures of prehistoric forests of Paleozoic days, with vegetation consisting largely of giant relatives of the modern club-mosses and having the branches covered by stiff overlapping leaves. Because the Joshua's leaves are spine-tipped, these plants are "cacti" in the popular mind, although there is nothing fleshy in their make-up and the whitish flowers are lily-like. In recent years interest in these "denizens of the desert" has grown. Many motorists visit them annually to take pictures, or camp and picnic among them. Not everyone agrees with Lieutenant J. C. Frémont who wrote in 1844, "Associated with the idea of barren sands, their stiff and ungraceful form makes them to the traveler the most repulsive tree in the vegetable kingdom."

The Joshua tree grows in the somewhat cooler and less arid parts of the desert, mostly at elevations from 2500 to 6500 feet, from the western end of the Mojave Desert in California across southern Nevada to extreme southwestern Utah and western Arizona. Its zone is above the highest and driest parts. In association with the Joshua at lower elevations are found creosote-bush, *Larrea divaricata*; somewhat higher in its western range are California juniper, *Juniperus californica*, and, farther east, Utah juniper, *Juniperus utahensis*. The Mojave yucca, *Yucca schidigera*, and, to the east, *Y. baccata* grow with it, as do pinyon, *Pinus monophylla*, and some oaks. Sometimes it occurs as scattered trees, but often in definite communities that constitute real forests that may cover many square miles

of open valley, or ascend canyons and steep slopes in the mountains.

As long ago as 1893, Merriam (N. Amer. Fauna, no. 7, pt. II. 353) made note of the fact that the Joshua trees of southern Nevada are mostly smaller than those of the Mojave Desert of California. As study progressed, it was realized that most of these more eastern trees are not only of smaller stature, but that they tend to branch nearer the ground, and that they have shorter leaves. In April, 1935, Susan Delano McKelvey, in the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum (16: 269, t. 139) called it "var. *jaegeriana*" in honor of E. C. Jaeger, author of a number of works on the California desert. Later (*Yuccas of the Southwestern United States*, pt. I. 118-142. 1938) Mrs. McKelvey published the most exhaustive study that has yet been made of this group of yuccas.

Yucca brevifolia

Mrs. McKelvey described the long-leaved plant, *Y. brevifolia*, as occurring mainly in California, where it occurs in the Mojave Desert from the Tehachapi Mountains to Nye and Esmeralda counties, Nevada, and to near St. George, Utah, on the one hand, and more southerly to the Little San Bernardino, Cottonwood and Iron mountains of the southern Mojave on the other, and also appearing in Arizona, in Mojave, Yavapai and Yuma counties. For its preservation there has been created the Joshua Tree National Monument,* a large area in the Little San Bernardino Mountains containing a stand of fine trees. The true *Y. brevifolia* is commonly from sixteen to thirty feet high, although individuals have been recorded perhaps as tall as sixty feet. It usually branches at from four to ten feet above the ground; leaves are eight to fourteen inches long, and the inflorescence tends to be twelve to twenty inches in length.

*See *Are We to Lose Joshua Tree National Monument* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for April-June 1946, and *Joshua Tree Progress* in the April-June 1947 issue.

Yucca brevifolia* var. *jaegeriana

The short-leaved type, *Y. brevifolia* var. *jaegeriana*, is found in the eastern part of the Mojave Desert of California from the Shadow, Kingston and Clark Mountains south to the New York Mountains, across Clark County, Nevada, toward St. George, Utah, and into Mojave County, Arizona. For the most part its range is distinct, although it seems to overlap that of the type species to some extent, and to be almost surrounded by it. Not as tall as the type species, it generally reaches twelve or fifteen feet in height, rarely twenty feet. It is more compact and closely branched, with the lowest branches beginning near the ground, with leaves three to eight inches in length, and inflorescence about twelve inches long. It is a different looking plant from its larger relative, although the technical characters of flower and fruit are much the same. The flower-clusters are rather like a cabbage-

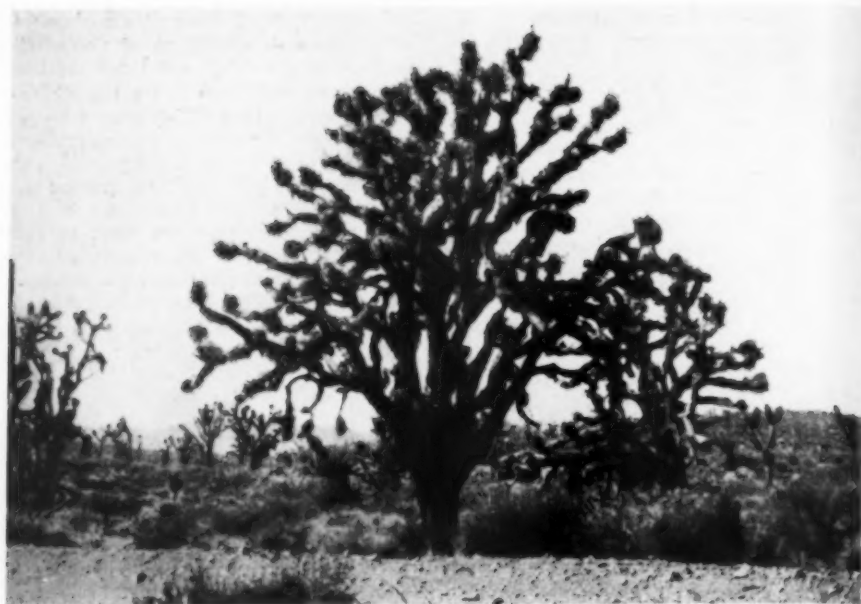
head, so fleshy and compact are they, although whiter and made up of many individual parts. The sepals and petals are long and narrow, waxy and fairly brittle. The flowers are full of insects, among which are usually some of the moths that pollinate them. The flowering season is in March and early April, the fruits attaining their greatest size in May and June, and seeds ripen in July and August. The fruits are three to four inches long, more or less egg-shaped, and fleshy. Gradually they shrink, becoming dryer and more capsule-like. Wolf (*California Wild Tree Crops*, 7-17, 1945) found over thirty-four percent oil in the dry fruits and seeds, with a "fair amount of protein." They are eaten by cattle.

An additional bit of evidence of the distinctness of the short-leaved Joshua may be the combustibility of its "wood." In the more western parts of the desert, I have

The short-leaved Joshua tree differs in appearance from its larger relative, although flowers and fruit are much the same in both.

Philip A. Munz





Philip A. Munz

If the short-leaved Joshua tree is to be maintained, there must be early action in setting aside an area large enough to assure its protection.

come to believe that dead Joshua trees are to be avoided for the evening camp fire, since it has been my experience that they burn unsatisfactorily and seem to be impregnated with inorganic material. I was interested to learn, therefore, on two successive nights and at camps some distance apart, that good combustion was obtained with plenty of heat and little ash, when we used the var. *jaegeriana*. Of course, this may have been due to soil conditions and not to a difference between the two trees.

The Joshua tree as a whole, is apparently less widespread now than formerly. Lauder milk and I (Carnegie Instit. Wash. Publ. 453. IV. 1934) found that the dung of the extinct ground-sloth, *Notrotherium*, taken from Gypsum Cave near Las Vegas, Nevada, consisted largely of leaves of this tree. Now the tree is not found in the immediate neighborhood of the cave, but has ascended

to higher elevations as the climate has apparently become more dry and hot. Moreover, it has suffered badly at the hands of man during the past half century. It has been used by various enterprises such as paper manufacture, the making of surgical splints and by tree nurseries for protectors of trunks of young fruit trees. Furthermore, large tracts of Joshua land have been cleared by homesteaders, many of whom have later had to abandon their clearings. It might be expected that the open vegetation of the desert would be free from devastation by fire, but for many miles along the highway between Victorville and Cajon Pass, California, there is a burned area of long-leaved Joshua and juniper. So little is known about its seeding and rate of growth that its recovery is uncertain, especially so since the population of California and adjacent states is on the increase.

The short-leaved Joshua is an interesting tree in itself, and its forests have an aspect all their own. It is seen by more visitors along the highway between Las Vegas, Nevada, and Baker, California, than in any other locality. South of this highway, in the area immediately west of Searchlight, Nevada, and in the region about Cima, California, there are large areas where it is splendidly developed. If future generations are to have any adequate concept of the original vegetation and other desert life in an undisturbed condition, and if the short-leaved Joshua is to be maintained at all, an area large enough to assure its protection should be set aside. Such a preserve should contain not only the short-leaved tree, but many associated species like the brilliantly colored Mariposa lily, *Calochortus kennerlyi* and other desert beauties.

There are two chief areas of short-leaved Joshuas to be considered for possible establishment as a federal reservation. One is near Cima. Concerning this, Dr. W. L. Jepson wrote in 1931 (*Madroño* 2: 43): "This is a very remarkable forest and doubtless the largest in California. The great desert valley which lies between the southern extension of the Shadow Mountains and the Ivanpah Mountains is filled from side to side with it. Thence it extends westerly over the ridge to Halloran Springs, easterly over the pass by Kessler Peak into the Ivanpah Valley about Cima. East of Yucca Grove station, one leaves the main road at Windmill Road station on the broad valley floor and turns southerly. One now begins to get an increasingly impressive idea of the vastness of this yucca forest as he goes on. The slope ascends almost imperceptibly until one attains a summit between two peaks, Kessler Peak on the left, a prominent point in the Ivanpah Mountains, and Teutonia Peak to the right. On the downward slope, easterly, into the Ivanpah Valley, the yucca trees are denser than I have ever seen them elsewhere—as one looks through the forest along the slope the trunks finally close the view, filling completely the vista. Every-



James E. Cole

This unusually fine specimen of the long-leaved Joshua, in Joshua Tree Monument, shows the characteristic of higher branching.

where else I have been able to look quite through a yucca forest to a further background."

Another possibility is to the south and east of the above, and across the Union Pacific Railroad. Its western side could include the jagged summits of the New York Mountains. Elevations rise here to over 5000 feet, and there are numerous water holes and springs, with abundant wildlife. From these mountains eastward through Lanfair Valley, containing much of the yucca, the reservation should extend on into Nevada to include the southern end of the McCullough Range, and as far toward Searchlight as would be feasible, for one of the finest displays of the short-leaved yucca is to the west and southwest of that town.

Both these areas are accessible by road. Both include scenic valleys and mountains;

both have large forests of this distinctive Joshua tree and its associates. The new reservation might be established as an addition to Joshua Tree National Monument, which is administered by the National Park Serv-

ice, less than one hundred miles away, with headquarters at Twentynine Palms, California. Early action is necessary, if we are to preserve an outstanding example of so strange and beautiful a forest.

WYOMING'S EX-GOVERNOR SPEAKS OUT FOR JACKSON HOLE MONUMENT

CITIZENS of Wyoming must awaken to the great asset they possess in their scenic and recreational wealth, and protect and develop it, according to a statement made in Cheyenne recently by former Governor Leslie A. Miller.

Particular attention was directed to a bill introduced in the present Congress that would add a little strip of land to the Teton National Park, but at the same time would abolish Jackson Hole National Monument.

"Figures just released," said Miller, "show that in 1947, 144,261 people were checked into Grand Teton National Park. They spent 209,052 days there. Reliable estimates indicate an equal number of additional tourists visited Jackson Hole National Monument, but did not enter the park.

"If we apply the very conservative figure of five dollars a day spent by each visitor, and the approximate 400,000 total days they were there," Miller added, "about \$2,000,000 worth of business in that community was transacted this season because of recreational values existing there. A check of county records will reveal that this is approximately eight times the total assessed valuation of all cattle in Teton County in 1946, and nearly twice the assessed valuation of all ranch lands in the county that year. An amount at least equal to the above figure would be spent by visitors in other parts of the state as they traveled to this scenic area."

Opponents of Jackson Hole National Monument have claimed in the past that its existence would injure local economy. Since the establishment of the monument

nearly five years ago, Miller pointed out, there has been no reduction in the number of cattle in Teton County. No grazing privileges held by operators running livestock on the monument lands have been cancelled, and ranchers are assured the continuation of these privileges throughout their lives, and the lives of immediate members of their families. Of an approximate total of 15,000 head of cattle in Teton County, only 7,000 make any use of forage on monument lands, and then only for a short season ranging from a few days for about 4,000 head, when trailing across the land, to perhaps five to six months for the other 3,000.

A bill now in Congress guarantees reimbursement to Teton County for any taxes that might not be levied because of future national monument developments.

All the dire forecasts of detriment to the community and its people are disproved by the record, according to Miller. Local bank deposits have increased over two and a half times what they were when the monument was established in 1943; the number of telephones on the Jackson exchange has risen from 351 in 1940 to approximately 600 today; power and light customers have risen in almost identical numbers, and it is estimated that the population there has doubled since the 1940 census. All this has occurred without any decrease in the livestock population of the county, but with explosive and highly profitable increases in tourist business.

"The campaign to abolish Jackson Hole National Monument," Miller stated, "is being sponsored by only a handful of in-

terests that stubbornly continue opposition they fomented five years ago. Whatever the reasons for their introduction in the present Congress of this bill to abolish the monument, their arguments against continuing this great reservation, as it has existed for five years, have been discredited. With this bill, H. R. 1330, in Congress, it is imperative that the people in the Jackson Hole community, and all others in the state who will profit as visitors travel through to our recreation areas, shall now weigh the

facts, and the threat that is in H. R. 1330. We must form sober judgment on it, and decide whether this bill becoming law is in the best interests of the state or drastically damaging to the future welfare of our people. We have figures and facts to go by, and it is time to discard the highly emotional attacks against the monument that have occurred in the past, and pass judgment on the basis of these facts."—From *Jackson's Hole Courier*, Jackson, Wyoming, October 23, 1947.

INTERIOR JOINS IN DEFENSE OF OLYMPIC RAIN FOREST

IN November, Newton B. Drury, Director, National Park Service, made the following statement:

"The Secretary of the Interior has announced that he will report adversely on pending Senate and House bills, S. 711 (Magnuson); S. 1240 (Cain); H. J. Res. 84 (Norman); H. R. 2750 (Norman); H. R. 2751 (Jackson); H. R. 4053 (Mack); and H. R. 4054 (Mack); and that he will oppose any boundary reductions in Olympic National Park. The strong stand taken by conservationists throughout the country in opposition to the pending legislative measures, and the tenor of the public hearings held before the House Committee on Public Lands on September 16 and 17 at Rosemary Inn, within the park, strengthened considerably the Secretary's position.

"While the Department opposes the enactment of H. R. 2750 and H. R. 2751 on their own merits, admittedly it did give some consideration to them as alternates to the considerably more dangerous H. J. Res. 84 and H. R. 4053, which provide for the establishment of a commission, weighing heavily on the side of the lumber interests, to recommend park boundaries. At the Congressional hearing held in the park in September, representatives of the lumber interests clearly stated that their support of pending boundary adjustment

bills was only as a first step toward getting the remaining accessible and merchantable virgin forests of the Olympic peninsula excluded from the park. This revelation, together with the strong and united stand taken by the conservation interests of the nation, convinced the Department and the National Park Service that it would be dangerous to the integrity of the park to take any position other than to recommend against any boundary changes.

"Another public hearing on the bills is scheduled to be held in Washington, D. C., sometime in the near future, although the date is not yet known. We shall advise the conservation organizations and others who have written to us expressing an interest in the hearings as soon as the time and place have been determined. It is necessary that any persons or organizations wishing to be heard ask Chairman Richard J. Welch of the House Committee on Public Lands for permission to appear before the Committee."

Association members and others who are fighting to save the Olympic rain forest may well feel encouraged over the Department of the Interior's latest stand. With the Department on our side, as it should be at such a time as this, our chances of saving this magnificent exhibit of nature are increased.

Your Field Secretary Visits Western Parks

During the past summer, Field Secretary Fred M. Packard, accompanied by his mother, motored 13,000 miles in the United States and Canada, visiting national parks and interviewing park officials in both countries. The main purpose of Mr. Packard's trip was to attend the Olympic hearings at Port Angeles, Washington, which were reported editorially in the foregoing issue. Following are a few observations made on the trip:

WE left the East on July 28 for Chicago, where I conferred with National Park Service men regarding various park problems. Going on, we stopped at Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Wind Cave National Park and Jewel Cave and Badlands national monuments in South Dakota. From here we dropped south to Rocky Mountain National Park.

As a wildlife technician, I had made a study of bighorn sheep and other wildlife at Rocky Mountain for the National Park Service in 1939 and 1940. Today the park's most pressing problem, perhaps, is that of private inholdings. Many original settlers have retained their lands hoping that the Service would acquire them. With the passing of years, Congress would not appropriate money for the purpose, and the owners have become discouraged and are now selling out to speculators. Land values have risen so rapidly that tracts that might have been acquired ten years ago at a moderate figure could not be obtained today for five or ten times the former price. Many of the new owners have no conception of what is fitting in a national park, and are developing their lands without regard to park policies. At the store on Deer Ridge, for instance, there is an unsightly wooden tower inviting visitors to climb to see the view, which can be seen better from many natural promontories, and a large billboard announcing the area as a million dollar attraction to promoters.

Our route led us through the sage country of southern Wyoming to Jackson Hole National Monument. We had lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Olaus Murie there, and discussed the bill to abolish the monument. Mr. Murie's opinion was that the compromise bill reported favorably by the House Public Lands Committee during the last days of the past session of Congress was undesirable. He said it leaves the administration of the valley under three different agencies without making it clear which agency should have jurisdiction over what area; it does not protect the islands in the Snake River, which contain wildlife habitat; and it provides no safeguard against the despoliation of the valley by promoters and commercial interests. The Interior Department is opposed to these proposals. The sentiment of many of the local people has changed, as was shown at the hearings last spring. Many of them favor retaining the valley under jurisdiction of the National Park Service. It is to be noted that the 1947 hearings have not been published.

I stopped at the new Jackson Hole Wildlife Park, where the New York Zoological Society has established a research laboratory to study wildlife problems under the direction of Mr. James Simon. (See *Purpose of the Jackson Hole Wildlife Park* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for July-September 1946.) Association members will recall that when this wildlife park was first suggested, the Association did not approve it because the indications were that it would be a zoo, entirely out of place in a national park area. However, partly through suggestions made by the Association, plans were reoriented to emphasize research. The laboratory should contribute to our knowledge of wildlife problems, if present policies are followed.

We had heard about Yellowstone National Park being commercialized and overdeveloped. Seeing it at the height of the

tourist season, we were well impressed and got no feeling of overdevelopment. Accommodations and facilities are located centrally, for the most part, and we drove for miles through lodgepole pine forests, and passed hot springs and geysers without annoyance of undue development. The sight of several hundred people gathered before Old Faithful, like devotees before a shrine, was inspiring.

Our next destination was Glacier National Park. As in all other United States parks, appropriation cuts have interfered here with administration, and the growing number of visitors calls for increased interpretive service, which cannot be met. The park has no museum, and an insufficient number of ranger-naturalists. Funds for maintaining roads and other facilities are limited, and it may be necessary to close the Going-to-the-Sun Highway until it can be repaired. Two power dams have been proposed by the Corps of Army Engineers that would flood a wide area of wildlife winter range within the park. It is encouraging to learn that the local people oppose construction of these dams.

Crossing the international border, we stopped at Canada's Waterton Lakes National Park, where Mrs. de Veber, wife of the superintendent, cordially welcomed us. Our purpose in going to Canada was to learn something of the Canadian methods of park administration. We found the Canadian park people cooperative. Park standards are not so rigid as in U. S. parks. For instance, most of the national parks of Canada contain government operated townsites, while through a number of the parks run the great transcontinental railroads.

At Banff National Park we stopped first at the townsite of Banff, continuing on to Lake Louise. Unfortunately, the weather was cloudy, so that we could not see the high peaks and icefields. Lake Louise and the headwaters of the Columbia River impressed us particularly because of the emerald color of the water dropping from the glaciers. The route of the Columbia River's Big Bend Highway runs northwest a hun-

dred miles from Yoho National Park through magnificent virgin forests in British Columbia's Hamber Provincial Park, and then another hundred miles south to Revelstoke.

Our journey took us west through the impressive Fraser River Canyon to Vancouver, B. C., where we spent a day, and then returned to the United States, going directly to Port Angeles. Except for a visit to Mount Rainier National Park, we remained at Port Angeles awaiting the Olympic hearings at Rosemary Inn. These hearings need not be further elaborated upon here, except that I should like to say that I was impressed with the clear-sightedness of the members of the House Public Lands Committee who were present. The proponents of the bills, principally the representatives of the lumber companies, based their case upon monetary return and other commercial benefits, while the park defenders presented sincere objections based only upon their love of the superb exhibit of primeval forests within the park. I had the feeling that the committee listened with more respect to the preservationists.

Our homeward trip took us through the Columbia River Valley to Mount Hood, and then south to Crater Lake National Park. This is one of the few national parks that has no private land problem. The inholdings were acquired several years ago. However, the park staff is confronted with the usual troubles arising from reduced appropriations, as well as the need for increased interpretive services and a larger ranger staff for protection of the park.

We followed the Redwood Highway to Muir Woods National Monument, thence east to Yosemite. There Superintendent Frank A. Kittredge showed us the spots that cause problems due to crowding—there were 33,000 visitors on July 4 alone. The Park Service is working constantly to alleviate this situation, but there is much to be done, and it will require far larger appropriations. This year an experimental grocery store was set up near one of the camp grounds to reduce the traffic conges-

tion created by people marketing at the main store, an idea that may help considerably.

Our next stop was at Hoover Dam, and then Zion, Bryce and Grand Canyon national parks. It is impossible to compare these parks, for each is magnificent in its own way; and together they constitute an almost complete portrayal of earth history. We did not have time to investigate thoroughly the problems in each of these parks, although, as usual, most of their troubles stem from insufficient appropriations. Our route crossed that of Executive Secretary Butcher taken earlier in the summer through the Navajo country. (See *Your Secretary Visits Arizona Areas* in NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE for October-December 1947.)

Summarizing, I should say that the most critical problem in the parks is the lack of adequate funds to provide the services demanded by the public, and to adequately protect the reservations. Most of the parks

have individual problems, many of them legislative, which require attention on the part of citizens throughout the country. Most notable of these is the Jackson Hole National Monument, and Glacier and Olympic national parks. An imperative need is for visitors to become better informed on the national policies governing the parks. Visitors should learn about administrative problems and discover that as owners of the parks they have a responsibility in helping to protect them. One of the most positive steps taken to create an informed public has been the publication of "*Exploring Our National Parks and Monuments*," the first popular book ever to discuss such aspects of our nature reservations. This is the Association's book—your book. You can promote the cause for which the Association is working by seeing that your local public library, school or college have copies, and that it is on sale in your local bookstore. Already the book is being sold successfully in the national parks and elsewhere.

LIQUOR SOLD IN NATIONAL PARKS

The sale of alcoholic liquor in our national parks is wholly incongruous with the principles and sentiments underlying the establishment of these reservations. Granting that the parks are maintained for the enjoyment of all our people, is it not understood that, as with our libraries and museums of art and science, the expression "all the people" means those who are able to appreciate the peculiar attributes of the reservations concerned? Either by actual mandates, or by common consent, the behavior of individuals and groups visiting public places is everywhere subjected to some degree of restraint.

Since earliest recorded history, liquor drinking has been an evil of concern to all leaders responsible for law and order, and many modern students of the subject have recognized its use and the use of drugs as vitally important aids in the establishment of commercialized vice of all kinds. Is it altogether improbable that the beer joints and drinking bars now appearing in our national parks may later lead to the opening of these nature reservations to gambling and other forms of vice?—EDWARD A. PREBLE, member, Board of Trustees.

During October, the National Park Service moved back to Washington. With a number of other federal agencies, the Service was shifted to Chicago at the start of the war to make room for war agencies in Washington. Now that the Service is home again, the heavy cost of travel between Chicago and Washington on the part of personnel, and the expense of telephone and telegraph communication between the two cities is ended; while close contact with other bureaus and Congress is restored.

Everglades National Park Dedicated

By GILBERT D. LEACH

"Here are no lofty peaks seeking the sky, no mighty glaciers or rushing streams, wearing away the uplifted land. Here is land, tranquil in its quiet beauty, serving not as the source of water, but as the last receiver of it. To its natural abundance we owe the spectacular plant and animal life which distinguishes this place from all others in our country."

IN these words, the President of the United States, Harry S. Truman, described Everglades National Park. At the dedication ceremony, he spoke from a palmetto-thatched stand in the little town of Everglades, Florida, on Saturday afternoon, December 6th.

In the audience of approximately 7000, or ten times the population of the town of Everglades, were nearly one-fourth of all the Florida Seminole Indians. The reservation, which was their home for several generations, has been included in the new park. To compensate for this, the Indians have been given a larger area north of the boundary, and are still free to rove through the park. They are among the most enthusiastic advocates of the park. Nearly 2,000, including the Indians, were guests of the Everglades National Park Commission for the noon meal of fish and hush puppies, with plenty of side trimmings. At the President's luncheon at the Rod and Gun Club, the guests were served a menu distinctively Everglades, from stone crabs to lime pie.

The formal dedication program was short. The Florida Federation of Women's Clubs presented a plaque commemorating its gift of Royal Palm State Park to become a part of the new national park; and Senators Claude Pepper and Spessard L. Holland of Florida, told of the Park's history. Governor Millard F. Caldwell then presented to the nation, from the State of Florida, the 424,000 acres already declared park area, 440,000 additional acres donated by the state, to be declared when freed of oil leases, and the \$2,000,000 previously

delivered to the Department of the Interior to acquire the remaining 400,000 acres to complete the revised boundaries.

Accepting this formal authentication of the steps that have been consummated, Julius A. Krug, Secretary of the Interior, dedicated the park, and outlined in a single sentence the policy of the Department with respect to it—"not just another reservation of public land, but, as it should be, a new and exciting link in our chain of national parks." After Mr. Krug had paid tribute to the complete and earnest cooperation of individuals, organizations and government units in making the new park possible, he introduced the President of the United States.

The President spoke not only to the people assembled before him, but to the nation through radio networks, taking occasion to impress upon the country the great need for conservation of all our natural resources. He said, "Public lands and parks, our forests and our mineral reserves, are subject to many destructive influences. We have to remain constantly vigilant to prevent raids by those who would selfishly exploit our common heritage for their private gain. Such raids on our natural resources are not examples of enterprise and initiative. They are attempts to take from all the people for the benefit of a few." Water conservation is the problem of the new park. The President went into this at some length, warning that the fresh water level must be maintained. He mentioned the fires that swept the 'Glades during the war and in previous years—"fires fed by dry grass



Charles C. Ebbets

Under the coconut palms at the village of Everglades, Florida, President Harry S. Truman dedicates the Everglades National Park. Those in the front row behind the President, from left to right, are a group of Seminole Indians with their white agent; Senator Spessard L. Holland; C. Ray Vinton, Custodian, Castillo de San Marco National Monument; Newton B. Drury, Director, National Park Service; Lt. Col. Vaughn; John Pennakamp, master of ceremonies and legislative chairman for the Everglades National Park Commission; Secretary of the Interior, Julius A. Krug; Senator Claude Pepper; Mrs. W. S. Jennings, widow of the former governor of Florida; August Burghard, Chairman, Everglades National Park Commission. Between Pennakamp and Secretary Krug is Thomas J. Allen, Director, Region One, National Park Service.

that should have been covered by water."

Citing the establishment of this park as "an object lesson and an example to the entire nation that sound conservation depends upon the joint endeavors of the people and their several governments," the President discussed a number of resources in which determined conservation must be practiced.

Speaking of the national park system as a whole, the President said, "Our national park system is a clear expression of the idealism of the American people. The nation has advanced constantly in the last seventy-five years in the protection of its natural beauties and wonders.

"The success of our efforts to conserve the scenery and wildlife of the country can be measured in popular use. The national park system covers but a fraction of one percent of the area of the United States, but over 25,000,000 of our fellow countrymen have visited our national parks within the past year. Each citizen returned to his home with a refreshed spirit and a greater appreciation of the majesty and beauty of our country.

"These are the people's parks, owned by young and old, by those in the cities and those on the farms. Most of them are ours today because there were Americans many years ago who exercised vision and devotion in the battle for conservation.

"Each national park possesses qualities distinctive enough to make its preservation a matter of concern to the whole nation."

Then, speaking of our newest national park, he said, "Certainly, this Everglades area has more than its share of features unique to these United States." The President concluded his message with a thought from the Bible: "Here we can truly understand," he said, "what the psalmist meant

when he sang: 'He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul.'"

The little settlement of Everglades was the only place in the vast Everglades wilderness where so large a crowd could be accommodated. It is a tropical beauty spot created by the late Barron Collier. Today it is maintained by his widow and three sons. In the heart of the wilds, it is reached only over a narrow road that leads south from the Tamiami Trail, four miles away. One telephone wire, one telegraph wire and one railroad wire were the facilities for about a hundred special writers, camera men and radio staffs. The President in his airplane, the Sacred Cow, flew over the park on his way from Key West to Naples, where he was met by Governor Caldwell and other officials for the motor trip. The White House news and cameramen traveled the same route.

Accustomed as they are to practically unlimited wire service, these news men felt handicapped. The Western Union ran six cars between Everglades and Miami, eighty miles, with news dispatches; the Associated Press used a special motorcycle messenger; the *Miami Daily News* used a blimp, and the *Miami Herald* a hydroplane. There is a runway for small planes at Everglades, but this was covered by the seats furnished by the Ringling Circus. It was nearly dark when the last car left the scene over the one-way road bordered by deep water on either side, but with forty members of the Florida Highway Patrol and sixty National Guards directing traffic, there was not a single injury.

As if Heaven looked down and smiled upon the scene, the weather for the dedication of Everglades National Park was brilliant. It was a great day in Florida.

Plans for chartering an American National Trust for preservation of historic sites and buildings, similar to the British National Trust, were discussed at a meeting of the National Council of Historic Sites and Buildings held in Washington last October. If an American National Trust is established, it will relieve the federal government of a large part of the cost of preserving the American heritage in historic sites and buildings.

THE 1947 FOREST FIRE RECORD

ONE THIRD OF ACADIA BURNED

By L. F. COOK, Assistant Chief Forester
National Park Service

FOR the first nine and a half months of 1947 the national park system had one of its best fire prevention and control records. Despite worse than normal fire danger conditions in the East during the spring, one of the most severe drought conditions in the Southwest, and record-breaking public use in practically all areas, only 323 fires had been reported as starting inside park areas or entering from the outside. Area burned inside national parks and monuments was less than 3250 acres, of which 2000 acres was forested land. One hundred three of the fires were caused by lightning and 220 were man-caused. Eighty-one percent of the fires burned less than ten acres each, and of the sixty fires which were larger than ten acres, thirty-three started outside the parks, and most of the burned area on these fires occurred outside. Three fires covered more than 300 acres inside the parks—the Big Run railroad-caused fire which entered Shenandoah National Park and burned 525 acres inside; the Moro Creek fire in Sequoia National Park, set by a man of unbalanced mind, which burned over 350 acres; and the Castle Grove fire, also in Sequoia National Park, caused by a smoker, burned 375 acres.

The good record, however, disappeared in the smoke of the disastrous Acadia National Park fire, which started on October 17 outside the park at a dump located almost three miles from the park's northeast boundary. Such a critical fire hazard condition existed at the time that the governor of Maine had issued a proclamation warning of the danger, and outlawing open fires throughout the state. The fire was controlled by the Bar Harbor fire department; but with the high dry winds of October 21 it again broke out and spread into the park. Before it

could be stopped, the gale of the 23rd, estimated at forty miles per hour, spread the fire so rapidly that it engulfed almost the entire eastern part of Mt. Desert Island. Before the holocaust was controlled, more than 17,188 acres of the island were blackened, including 8750 acres of Acadia National Park. This brings the 1947 total acreage burned inside the parks to 12,000 acres. The 1946 total was 3410 acres. Property damage on Mt. Desert Island is variously estimated at five to ten million dollars with several hundred structures destroyed. Bar Harbor itself was largely

Acadia National Park, one of the nation's most popular beauty spots, has been the victim of human carelessness with fire. In the upper left arm of the burned area, shown on the accompanying map, is the point of origin. Here, at a refuse dump, on October 17, sparks were whipped by strong winds into the dry vegetation of a surrounding meadow. Not until November 14 was the fire out. A total of 17,188 acres had been destroyed, 8,750 of which were within the park. The fire climbed the north face of Sargent Mountain. The Bubbles at the north end of Jordan Pond were totally burned over. On Cadillac Mountain, only the west slope was saved. Destroyed, too, was the country surrounding The Tam, and gone were the forests along the Ocean Drive, over The Beehive, on Great Head and around The Bowl. Nearly a third of the park, on the western half of the island, not shown on the map, is intact, as is the small mainland area on Schoodic Peninsula. The Acadia fire is the fourth largest national park fire on record. The largest occurred in 1929 when 50,000 acres were destroyed in Glacier. This fire spread from surrounding national forest lands. The total area burned in both the park and the national forest was more than 100,000 acres. In 1936, Isle Royale lost 30,000 acres in three separate fires; while Yellowstone's Heart Lake fire wiped out 18,756 acres.

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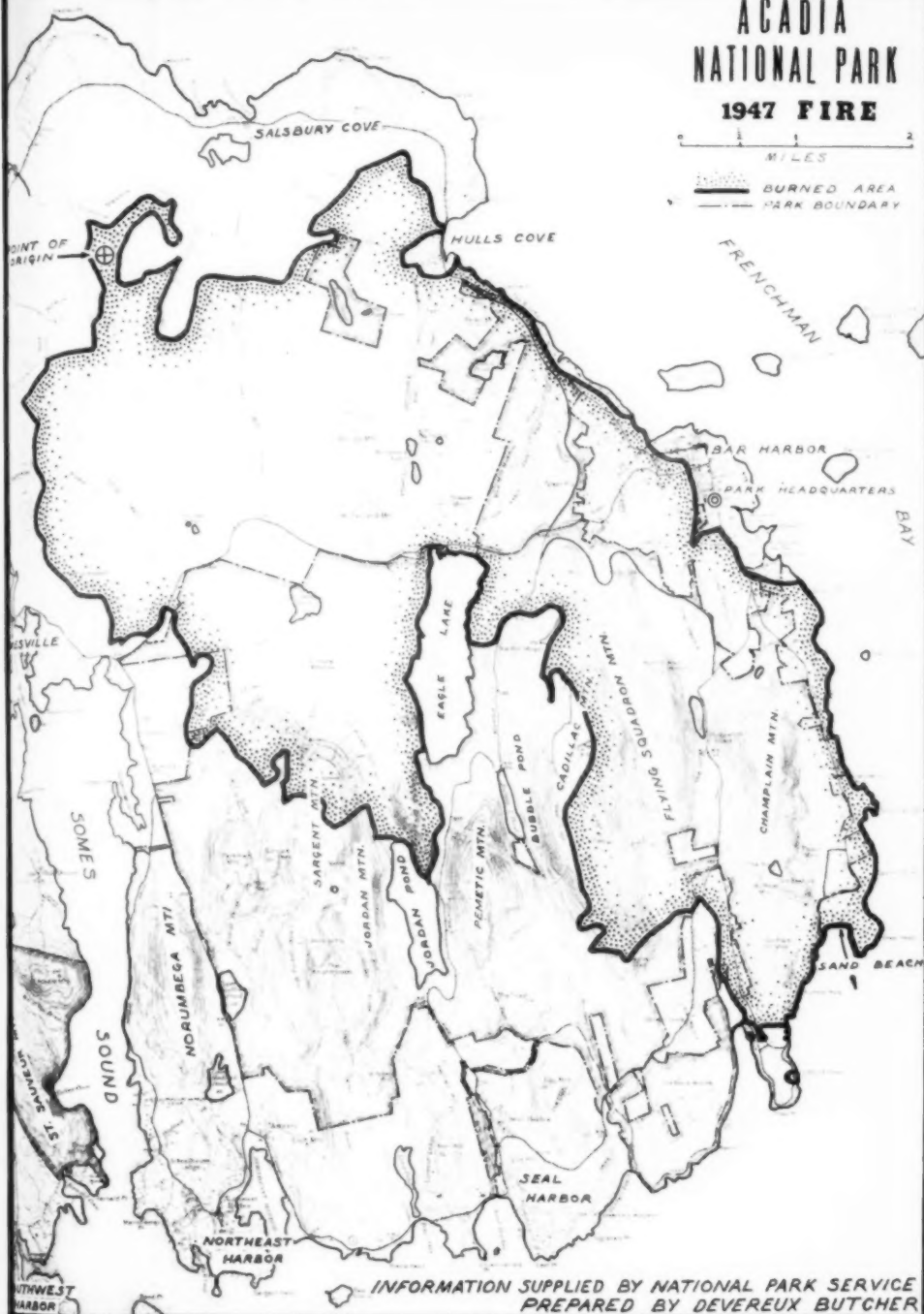
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ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

1947 FIRE

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MILES

— BURNED AREA
— PARK BOUNDARY



INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PREPARED BY DEVEREUX BUTCHER

saved. The island was placed under martial law for over two weeks.

The small staff of Acadia National Park and local municipal fire companies were inadequate to handle the emergency. As soon as the seriousness of the situation became apparent, the National Park Service dispatched by plane twenty-five of its best eastern fire control supervisors from Washington and Richmond, and from Shenandoah, Great Smoky Mountains and Mammoth Cave national parks, the Blue Ridge Parkway and other areas. The Forest Service also loaned ten additional supervisors from Atlanta. Because of the number of fires throughout New England burning at the same time, experienced civilian fire fighters and equipment were unobtainable in the quantity required. The Army Air Forces furnished several hundred fire fighters and operated mess and communication services. The University of Maine and Bangor Theological Seminary permitted upperclass students to volunteer for fire fighting under faculty supervision. More than twenty miles of fire hose and tons of other equipment were flown by the AAF from far distance points.

After the great run of the fire on the 23rd, control action was reorganized and the fire brought under control after more than twenty-four miles of fire line had been completed by October 27. The job of mop-up was one of the most difficult in the recollection of any of the supervisors whose past experiences on fires covered all sections of the country. The duff was so dry

that in many places it smoldered down to bedrock. However, the fire was declared completely under control on November 6 without the help of rain. It was declared out on November 14.

About one-third of the beautiful forests of Acadia are scarred by the fire. It is too early to determine how serious the effects will be, but at least thirty percent, and perhaps as much as sixty percent of the forest within the burned area has been killed. Much of the spruce-pine forest was completely destroyed by intense crown fires. It is hoped that most of the broadleaf trees will survive, although many individual trees will succumb.

The fire spread from its point of origin at Fresh Meadow, southwest of Salisbury Cove, outside the park, east to the ocean at Halls Cove; south from Fresh Meadow to the top of Sargent Mountain, and the north end of Jordan Pond; north around the west and north shores of Eagle Lake; along the north and east edge of the Cadillac Mountain Road to the summit; south to Eagle Crag; east around Otter Creek village, and south and east across Otter Point to below Thunder Hole. Along the east shore the fire burned to the ocean from south of Halls Cove to Otter Point, except in Bar Harbor. Park headquarters in Bar Harbor was not burned, but several members of the park staff lost their homes.

Removal and clean-up of fire-killed trees is planned, and reforestation, where practical, is being studied.

EXPLORING OUR NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS by Devereux Butler, Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association, and published by The Oxford University Press, New York, is the latest and most authentic book on our wonderful nature reservations. With full color pictures on the covers and illustrated with 170 superb photographs and a map, it describes, in 160 pages, the 27 great national parks and 38 nature monuments. It tells how to reach each park and monument by train, bus and automobile; and it gives information on accommodations at the reservations. Fast becoming the most popular book on the subject, *Exploring our National Parks and Monuments* is now approaching the 10,000 mark in sales.

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Water Recreation in the Desert

By ISABELLE F. STORY
Assistant Chief of Information
National Park Service

IN the past few decades the engineering marvels of desert reclamation and water control have produced great lakes in otherwise arid regions. These lakes, purely utilitarian in conception, were planned to pay their dividends to the public in the form of irrigation or of electricity for farms and communities not generally so served.

With the creation of beautiful Lake Mead when the gigantic Hoover Dam impounded the waters of the Colorado River, it was immediately apparent that a lake such as this provided an unexpected bonus in the form of water-recreation in an arid country. Lake Mead, the third largest artificial lake in the United States, has a shoreline of 550 miles at its highest level. In places wide and open, in others narrow between high canyon walls, it winds for 115 navi-

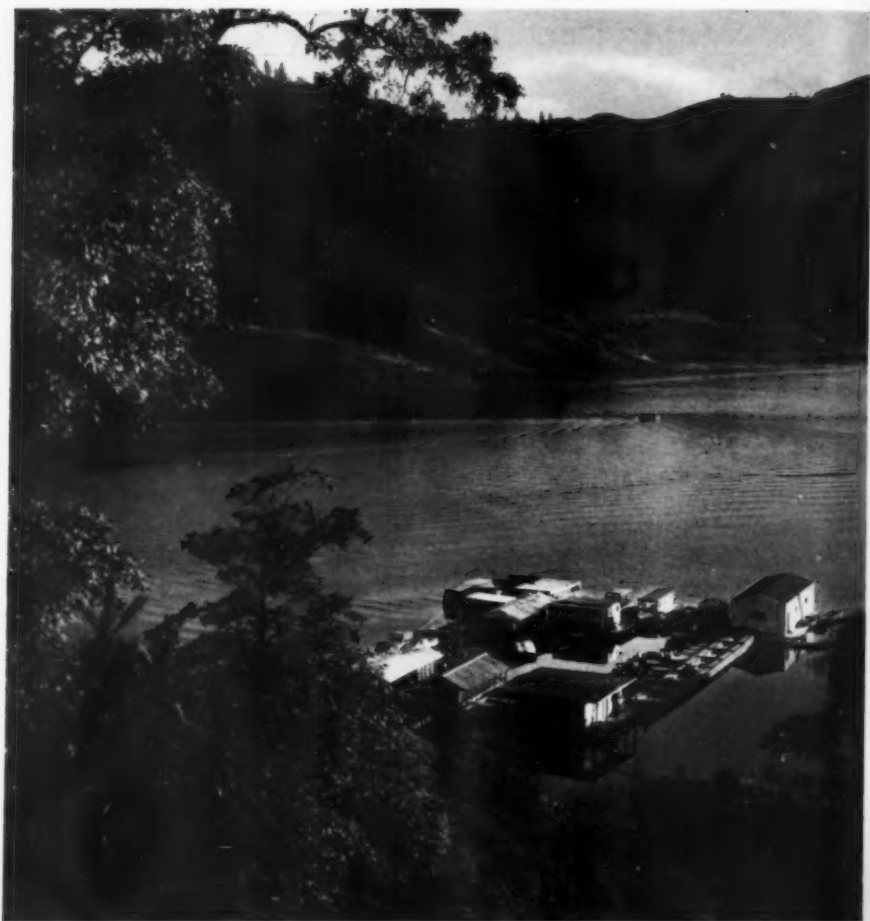
gable miles from Hoover Dam eastward into the Grand Canyon, with an arm extending more than thirty miles north to the Virgin River Valley. The Colorado River, filled with silt until it reaches the reservoir, suddenly drops its load and produces a clear, brilliantly blue lake, framed by the colorful desert mountains of Arizona and Nevada.

The Bureau of Reclamation, having unwittingly created this all-year playground as a by-product of its engineering marvel, sought ways and means of developing adequate and suitable recreational facilities. Finally it requested the National Park Service (both agencies are bureaus of the United States Department of the Interior) to undertake the administration and development of Lake Mead Recreational Area,

On the Lake Mead Recreational Area of Arizona and Nevada is Hemenway Wash Boat Landing, in the lower basin, on the Nevada shore.

H. Allwine





Bureau of Reclamation

A non-profit organization of boat owners has established, by special permit, the Shasta Boat and Yacht Club on the Shasta Lake Recreational Area, California.

which includes Lake Mead and adequate adjoining shorelands, and this agreement was approved by the Secretary of the Interior. More recently similar arrangements have been made with the Bureau of Reclamation for the administration by the National Park Service of the Shasta and Millerton Lakes Recreational Areas in California and the Coulee Recreational Area in Washington; also with the Corps of Engineers of the

United States Army for the administration and development of the Lake Texoma Recreational Area in Texas and Oklahoma, resulting from the construction of Denison Dam. Now it is routine, under agreements with these two agencies, for the National Park Service to survey and appraise the recreational potentialities of the various federal water-impoundment projects, in advance of initiation of work, and to aid in

determining whether provisions for each would be economically justified. The Service has undertaken the responsibility of administering only those recreational areas resulting from water-impoundment projects that are considered of national interest.

So far as is practicable the recreational areas are administered and developed along the same general lines as the 171 units constituting the national park system, but their inherent nature makes for certain fundamental differences of use and management, and therefore precludes their inclusion in the national park system. The concepts underlying their establishment are basically different. National parks, national monuments, national parkways, and historic areas of various classifications are all established directly by act of Congress or under broad congressional authority by the President of the United States or the Secretary of the Interior. The purpose of such establishment, and the administration by the National Park Service, is to preserve the scenic, scientific, and historic qualities "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people," both now and in the future. Develop-

ments for public enjoyment are only those basically necessary. By far the greater proportion of the large scenic national parks is maintained as primeval wilderness. The sports furthered are those compatible with the inherent nature of the national parks. Mountain climbing, hiking, camping, horseback riding, swimming where practicable but not on the scale of a resort beach, boating, skiing, and similar outdoor diversions on a simple scale are natural wilderness diversions. In historic areas, installations made are for public comfort or for effective interpretation of the major historical event commemorated by the establishment of the monument or historic site.

On the other hand, recreational areas—the by-products of great engineering feats that have changed the face of nature—have no such intrinsic primary significance and so involve no trusteeship of unspoiled natural scenery or of historic site. These are dependent for their very existence upon the water-impoundment projects; and changes in irrigation and power needs, or in conditions underlying the furnishing of water, can cause basic modifications or even the

At Lake Texoma Recreational Area in Texas and Oklahoma, boating and other water sports are available where none existed a few years ago.

Bureau of Reclamation



elimination of the recreational developments. Therefore, the federal organization concerned with the reclamation or power project retains basic control over the resulting recreational area. The National Park Service, in bringing its experience in developing facilities for public use and enjoyment to the problem of recreational use of reservoir lakes, acts solely as the representative of the water or power producing agency.

When the Lake Mead Recreational Area was established in 1936, plans for development extending twenty, thirty and fifty years into the future were drafted for this entirely new kind of project. These plans included the installation of floating swimming barges, sandy bathing beaches, foot trails, observation lookouts, picnic grounds, museums to house prehistoric relics especially from the Valley of Fire area, and, of course, housing, boating, and other transportation facilities.

Some of these plans were put into effect in the few years intervening before the beginning of the emergency foreshadowing war. Development of three principal recreational units was begun—at Hemenway Wash near Boulder City and now referred to as the Boulder area; at Overton on the Virgin River arm of the lake; and at Pierce Ferry at the western entrance to the Grand Canyon. Concessioners constructed a lodge unit at Hemenway Wash, while boat docks, bathing beach facilities, and picnic grounds were installed, and boats were put on the lake. Now that the war is over, the National Park Service is urging that the concessioner push the developments planned. There is much for the federal government to do, as funds for public works become available, in building and improving roads, water and sewage facilities, landscaping, improving campgrounds, picnic grounds, and beaches, and extending these facilities to other points on the lake. The concessioner's lodge and cabin facilities must be expanded, and additional boat facilities provided.

Although it is primarily a man-made

attraction, Lake Mead Recreational Area possesses scenic and scientific interest. The general region is a geologist's paradise—laid open as it has been by the erosion of the Colorado River and its drainage system. Archeologists say that this desert country has been almost continuously inhabited by man for some 2,000 years; and as always in arid regions the activities of the prehistoric inhabitants centered around the water courses. Sites of prehistoric occupancy were in the path of the waters of the Colorado River backing up behind Hoover Dam, and a careful survey was made to salvage as much as possible of the pottery and stone, bone, and shell artifacts that tell part of the human story.

Other recreational areas now administered by the National Park Service are too new to have gone much beyond the planning stage; but they will follow the general pattern established at Hoover Dam. Federal installations of any size will have to await the appropriations of funds for construction. Facilities for visitors will be furnished by concessioners.

These areas seem destined to become increasingly popular, largely by reason of their location in desert or semi-desert localities. What others of national importance will result from dam construction remain to be seen. The policy has been set that, in general, state park authorities, local communities, or non-profit organizations should be the administering agencies for recreational areas of less than national or wide regional importance resulting from the building of new reservoirs. Upon request, however, the National Park Service may cooperate by supervising planning and construction of recreational developments and in organizing administration by the designated agency. Such cooperation is authorized under the Park, Parkway, and Recreational-area Study Act of June 23, 1936.

With the great river control surveys now under way, undoubtedly many localities will benefit by the development of hitherto undreamed of recreational possibilities.

News from the Conservation Battlefronts

SAVE-THE-REDWOODS LEAGUE, 250 Administration Building, University of California, Berkeley 4, California.—The National Tribute Grove program is nearing completion. The announced goal was the preservation of five forest units totaling 1400 acres in the heart of the Mill Creek forest. Contributions toward that purpose in 1945 made possible the purchase of two of these forest units at a cost of \$104,444, one half of which was paid out of National Tribute Grove contributions, the other half by the state. In like manner, contributions secured in 1946 made possible the purchase of the third and fourth forest units, also at a cost of \$104,444.

The League received the undertaking of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, to raise funds for purchase of the fifth forest unit—toward which a substantial sum already has been secured.

The organizations and the individuals participating have been instrumental, not alone in establishing an ever-living tribute to the men and women of our armed forces, those who still live as well as those who died, but in preserving a primeval forest unsurpassed anywhere in the world. In all, the National Tribute Grove embraces more than 5000 superb acres in Del Norte County, California. —AUBREY DRURY, *Administrative Secretary*.

FRIENDS OF THE LAND, 1368 North High Street, Columbus 1, Ohio.—I want to talk to you on the most vital subject that has to do with our people today. Not only the farmer who tills the land, but the merchant, doctor, preacher and the mechanic all depend on the land for existence.

Twelve of us flew from Texas to Chicago. We flew low enough to see what is happening to the country and it is both tragic and disheartening to see how terribly eroded the land is. Many thousands of acres are ruined. You can't conceive without seeing it yourself the injuries that have already been done to hundreds of our farms.

Within my own memory I know twelve families on contiguous farms, making at that time what they thought to be a good living. Eventually all these farms were worn out and no families lived on them. Fortunately there is something we can do about it. We can see

the contrast where one farm has been saved and another has been ruined. In evidence that our farmers are awaking is the result of our election in organizing our county into a soil conservation district when the vote was 860 to 1.

I call your attention to the organization known as Friends of the Land. This is a national organization. We hope we can awaken our people to the necessity of doing something right now about the matter.—ED JAMESON, *The Land*.

AMERICAN NATURE ASSOCIATION, 1214 16th Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. —From William H. Carr, Chairman of the Arizona Wildlife Federation, comes an urgent appeal to join in the battle to save national forest, national park and other public lands for the people to whom they belong. This appeal arises from the character of hearings being held throughout the West by a subcommittee of the House Committee on Public Lands.

"Having failed in their initial attempts at private acquirement of federal lands," says Mr. Carr, "the stockmen are now trying to gain even greater personal use of the ranges, from the mountain tops to the deserts, through hamstringing the Forest Service, the already weakened Grazing Service, and other land managing agencies, by means of budget reductions. It is an attempt to nullify scientific conservation practices and policies gained through the past half century."

The hearings are presided over by Congressman Frank A. Barrett of Wyoming, a man interested in the cattle business, or by Congressman Robert F. Rockwell of Colorado, who has cattle grazing on national forest land. The impartiality of such officers would be too much to expect. Mr. Barrett, noted for his bullying tactics, has been so prejudiced that Mr. Carr declares he should be disqualified, that "his behavior is a disgrace to our form of government. He has demonstrated that he is an enemy of the land." Having attended hearings over which this congressman has presided at the National Capitol, we would be inclined to feel that even these words are an understatement.

The western hearings have degenerated

into a "trial" of the Forest Service; an attack upon the integrity of its chief and its personnel—an attack instigated and abetted by the congressional committee. Sympathetic attention is given to the complaints of the stockmen, while only a few minutes are given to men who can provide the scientific facts.

We may take encouragement from the fact that the methods of the committee have created local indignation in its wake. After the hearing in Grand Junction, Colorado, the *Daily Sentinel* characterized the hearing as "not in the American tradition."—Editorial, *Nature Magazine*.

NEW YORK STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, Convention at Rochester, N. Y.—In November, 1947, the Convention passed unanimously the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the site of the Statue of Liberty on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor is greatly in need of repairs and improvements including piers, pavements, retaining wall and proper facilities for public comfort, and in its present condition is a bleak and barren spot, without any form of beautification, and

WHEREAS, the number of people from all over the world visiting the Island increases greatly each year, it having been reported that there were over 16,000 visitors during the 1947 Labor Day weekend, and

WHEREAS, a satisfactory master plan for the improvement of the Island has been completed by the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, and

WHEREAS, this great symbol of America's Spirit of Good Will to all people of the World inspires strangers with hope, and fills the hearts of our own citizens with feelings of patriotic devotion,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs in Convention assembled, November, 1947, calls upon the Department of the Interior and the President of the United States to submit estimates for the early execution of plans for the improvement of Bedloe's Island and the facilities for public access to the enjoyment of the Statue of Liberty, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Appropriation Committee of the Senate, Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, Chairman, and the Appropriation Committee of the House of Representatives, Honorable John Taber of New York, Chairman, are requested to give sympathetic consideration to the estimates submitted to it by the executive branch of the government for the improvement of the Statue of Liberty and Bedloe's Island on which it stands.—Mrs. Charles Cyrus Marshall, Chairman of Conservation, 2239 Tiebout Avenue, New York 57, N. Y.

THE EDITOR'S BOOKSHELF

Reviews by FRED M. PACKARD

MAMMALS OF NORTH AMERICA, by Victor H. Cahalane. Published by The Macmillan Company, New York, 1947. Illustrated. 682 pages. Price \$7.50.

This attractive book by the Chief Biologist of the National Park Service presents a wealth of accurate information about ninety-four American mammals in an entertaining style that may be read with delight by every outdoor enthusiast. Based partly upon Mr. Cahalane's thorough personal

knowledge of wildlife, and partly upon his exhaustive study of the technical literature, the book is unusually complete, and fills admirably the need for an authoritative popular survey of the animals of the United States. A pleasant blend of humor, sympathy and understanding portrays our wild neighbors as companionable members of our population, so that the reader feels an intimate friendship with them as they are, without emotionalizing about them. Useful in the home reference library, this volume

should also be an excellent adjunct to travels through this country. Francis Jacques' black and white sketches are unusual and dramatic. Some of them seem to be a little out of drawing, which may be due to the artist's greater familiarity with birds than with mammals.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS, by Roger Tory Peterson. Third edition. Published by Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1947. Illustrated. 314 pages. Price \$3.50.

Roger Peterson's famous field guides include all advice that will enable the novice or the experienced student to identify birds. The books contain no irrelevant material. This revision of the guide to eastern birds is the result of prodigious study in the field and consultation with other experts. The new plates are extraordinary, not only for their beauty and accuracy, but also for the information they provide without extraneous detail. They show a refreshing originality, especially those of the confusing fall warblers, the heads of the terns and the sketches of hawk patterns. The publishers are to be commended for the care with which the shades of color have been printed.

Mr. Peterson makes frequent exhortations for caution in identifying rarities and subspecies. The comment that ten years of field work is needed to know the fall warblers, well may reduce the number of misidentifications appearing in literature. At the same time, Mr. Peterson gives every clue necessary to determine the difficult species, so that anyone using this book carefully should make no mistakes.

One defect of the previous editions was the difficulty of using them in the prairie states. The revision includes all of the birds likely to be seen as far west as the edge of the Rockies. The descriptions of groups like the waterfowl, hawks and herons are so complete that visitors to our western national parks should carry the eastern guide as well as the western. Awareness of the bird life one meets while traveling

adds immeasurably to the pleasure of a trip, and acquiring skill in identifying birds is a pastime that can be pursued wherever one goes.

THE FLAME BIRDS, by Robert Porter Allen. Published by Dodd, Mead, New York, 1947. Illustrated. 233 pages. Price \$3.50.

The wild lands of America provide a field for exploration today, just as they did one hundred years ago. Robert Allen, his eyes and mind alert to the wonderment of nature in all its aspects, delved into the mystery of the reappearance of the roseate spoonbill as a nesting bird on the Florida keys and the coast of Texas, absorbing more about these regions by staying quietly in a few places than any number of observers could have learned by extensive wanderings. This is, after all, the essence of exploration: to observe what is at hand, rather than to move constantly about a wider field.

The Flame Birds tells pleasantly and with humor how the author gathered the facts for his noted treatise on the roseate spoonbill. The scientific information is summarized so that even the casual reader will be interested. Few popular books on science show so clearly how complex is the study of a living species, and how myriad are the leads that must be followed to arrive at sound conclusions.

The charm of the book lies in the vivid impressions it gives of the Florida wild and its denizens, so that one is awakened to the simple beauty that is there. Now that the Everglades National Park has been established and is to be expanded, this account of the wildlife of the vicinity will serve as ideal reading during a visit to the area. Mr. Allen makes his experiences personal to the reader, who will in turn enrich his own experience by having read it. The account of the spoonbill on Carroll Island off the coast of Texas contains much information on the behavior of the birds there.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Dr. Philip A. Munz (*Let's Save the Short-Leaved Joshua Tree*) was born in Saratoga, Wyoming, in 1892. At the University of Denver he received his BA and MA degrees, and at Cornell University his Ph.D. From 1917 to 1944 he taught at Pomona College, Claremont, California, and then took a research professorship at Cornell. Dr. Munz is now director of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, an institution founded for the study of native plants of California. He has spent much time in the deserts of California and has written papers on plants of the Southwest. He is author of *A Manual of Southern California Botany* and of numerous papers on the evening primroses and their relatives in both North and South America.

Delos E. Culver (*The South Florida Situation Today*) is an investment banker in his native Pennsylvania. Following his schooling, he entered the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, as a student of ornithology and botany. Under Dr. Witmer Stone he did intensive study, with subsequent field trips to Hudson Bay, Guatemala and the Bermudas. His interest has shifted from the purely scientific to a profound interest in preserving nature. He devotes much time to humane work, and has lately become president of the newly-formed national organization, Defenders of Furbearers. Mr. Culver belongs to a number of conservation and preservation organizations including the National Parks Association. His article is the result of a recent trip to the Everglades country.

Isabelle F. Story (*Water Recreation in the Desert*) is assistant chief of information in the National Park Service, and has been in charge of information work for the Service—press, publications, radio—since 1924. She has ranged the field of free lance work from a weekly newspaper column to encyclopedia material, including

many contributions to the *New York Times* and other leading newspapers and magazines. Her professional affiliations include the Women's National Press Club and the Society of Women Geographers. Miss Story has traveled widely to national parks.

Gilbert D. Leach (*Everglades National Park Dedicated*) was born in Indiana in 1881. He has spent most of his life in newspaper work. Beginning at the age of nineteen, he became half owner and editor of the *Hoosier Democrat*, Charleston, Indiana. Since, he has been on the staffs of newspapers in Louisville, Kentucky; Indianapolis and Marion, Indiana; Pasadena, California; Montgomery, Alabama; and in Jacksonville, Pensacola and Tampa, Florida. Until recently, he was editor and publisher of the *Leesburg Commercial*. On March 1, 1945, Governor Millard Caldwell commissioned him managing director of the Everglades National Park Commission.

L. F. Cook (*The 1947 Forest Fire Record*) is a native of Massachusetts. In 1923, he graduated from the New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University. During his college years he spent his summer vacations working for the Massachusetts state forester. Mr. Cook joined the National Park Service in 1924, serving successively as park ranger, assistant park ranger and chief park ranger at Sequoia until 1933. He was then appointed forester in charge of the western division of the Park Service's Branch of Forestry, where he supervised the CCC forestry program for western parks. In 1938, he was promoted to the position of Assistant Chief Forester in the director's office at Washington. Mr. Cook gives us a first hand account of the Acadia fire, for he went to the park at the time. He supplied the information that enabled us to locate accurately the burned area on the map.

THE PARKS AND CONGRESS

DURING the summer the House Subcommittee on Public Lands held hearings on many bills in Alaska and the western United States. The most important of these hearings was on the bills to make the forests of the Olympic National Park available to loggers, as has been reported in recent issues of the NATIONAL PARKS MAGAZINE. Further Congressional action on the legislation discussed before this committee awaits publication of the summer hearings, and will be taken during the present session of Congress. No bills pertaining to the national parks were acted upon during the special session.

The two most critical legislative threats to the national parks now before Congress are the Olympic bills and H.R. 1330, to abolish the Jackson Hole National Monument. The opposition to the Olympic proposals has been extremely effective and there is reason to hope that they will not be enacted. Strong, positive action by the public now should tip the scales, so that conservationists may take the offensive in this battle. The people of every state should inform their own representatives in Congress of their views on this subject at once.

In order to meet the publication deadline, this page is being written before Congress reconvenes in January. The Jackson Hole bill, H.R. 1330, is now on the Consent Calendar and may have been voted on by the House before this issue reaches you. In the event that the House passes this bill, it is important that the people write their views on it to Senator Hugh Butler, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Lands, and to their own senators immedi-

ately. The testimony at the 1947 hearings showed clearly that the people of the country, including many residents of Jackson Hole, do not favor abolishment of the national monument. Accordingly, the bill was amended, ostensibly to conform to public opinion, but actually to achieve the original purpose indirectly. The amendments provide that less than one-fifth of the present national monument shall constitute an addition to the Grand Teton National Park. The remaining four-fifths of the land, including the shores of Jackson Lake and the islands in the Snake River (critical wildlife habitat), and all of the lands east of the Snake River would be open to many types of exploitation. The bill is so confusingly worded, contradictory in places, that there would be inevitable controversy about what may be done on the excluded lands and what agencies would have jurisdiction over them. The National Park Service is opposed to any changes in the present national monument.

A third problem is the imperative need for more adequate funds for the National Park Service. It is impossible to protect the national parks effectively with the personnel reduced as it now is to half the prewar strength, not to mention the herculean task of handling 25,000,000 visitors. The House Committee on Appropriations, Congressman Ivor D. Fenton, Chairman, should be urged to approve sufficient appropriations to restore the National Park Service to its prewar status. The people should take this action *now*, in advance of the hearings on the Department of the Interior appropriations.

From the National Park Service comes word that recent discussions in Mexico City have resulted in the designation of a Mexican International Park Commission similar to that of the United States; an agreement by the Mexican Commission to prepare and present to President Aleman, for signature, two decrees establishing the Mexican counterparts of Big Bend National Park and the Coronado International Memorial; and an agreement to meet with the U. S. Commission when the decrees are signed.

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